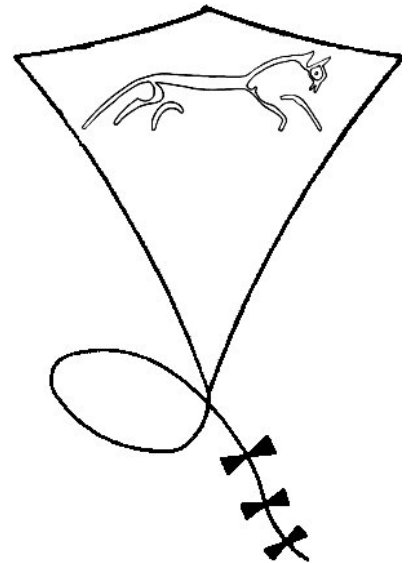


# Cowpat Hill

Journal of  
The White Horse Kite Flyers  
Autumn Issue 2006  
October - December



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

It has come to our notice that some members are not renewing their subscription until the festival in May. Our constitution specifies that the membership year runs from the November AGM. For insurance purposes it is imperative that your membership is current. For this reason if you have not renewed within 28 days of the due date we now have to assume that your membership has lapsed and your insurance cover will be void. Membership cannot be backdated, as this would allow any one to get insurance cover after an incident. Any one rejoining after the 28-day period will pay an appropriate fee to cover the remainder of the year until the next AGM.

We would like to apologise for these draconian measures but they are made necessary by the modern attitude to litigation. We would all, much rather be out flying kites than having to get involved with this kind of issue.

Arthur Dibble

Chairman

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS  
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SN3 4YR  
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# Diary Dates 2006

W = Workshop, D = Display, T = Teddy Bears

## October

8<sup>th</sup> Barbury One Sky One World  
14/15<sup>th</sup> IoW Pilgrimage  
15<sup>th</sup> Franklin 300 (see forum for details)  
21/22<sup>nd</sup> Autumn workshop. Kelvin Woods Papillions

## November

4<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting  
12<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle  
19<sup>th</sup> AGM Holiday Inn Express

## December

10<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle  
**27<sup>TH</sup> Christmas Pudding Fly**

## January 2007

14<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle

## February 2007

10/11<sup>th</sup> Tom McAllister workshop  
11<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle

Please note that all events are liable to alteration or cancellation. For the latest information please check our web site. [www.whkf.org.uk](http://www.whkf.org.uk)

## AGM 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Please don't forget this. It is your chance to have your say about the running of the club. It is being held at the same venue as last year, The Holiday Inn Express just off junction 16 of the M4. The format will be the same as previous years with sandwiches and chips at a convenient break point and a raffle afterwards that helps to pay for the food.

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## GREEN ISSUES

How nice it was to see in the last issue that our President was pressing for us all to start using the club green again. I have long been in favour of this even if perhaps I have tended recently to wear some of my more colourful T-shirts. It is very surprising just how good it is to make you feel part of things if you all have a common theme. It also helps members of the public to identify club members so that they can get assistance or information.

There is a wide range of club merchandise available and details can be found on the back page of this magazine. If we haven't got what you want contact one of the committee and they will see what they can do.

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## WORKSHOPS

When you get this magazine the Papillion workshop will be almost with us. If you have booked to do this one please make sure you have paid your deposit as there is a long waiting list and you could lose your place. You can check the web site for any late availability. As usual there will be a raffle to help cover the cost of food.

There you can also find details of the February workshop with Tom McAllister. Costs etc. will be posted as soon as we have final details.

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## BOOK

Has any one else come across the book "Kite Rider" by Geraldine McCaughrean? I got it as a birthday present from my wife and found it quite interesting. It is supposed to be a children's novel but I think it would be a bit heavy going for them as it gives an insight into Chinese culture in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, it might however do them some good to realise just how soft on them their parents are nowadays.

If you want to borrow it and can't find it in your local library let me know and I will let you have it now I have finished.

Fano 2006.

We arrived on the Island just after 14.00 after a very nice 18 hour cruise on the Dana Sirena, meals on board are excellent and cabins very nice. We had a great trip. We drove straight from the Ferry and onto the Fano ferry that was fairly easy as it was my first time on the funny side of the road! Our first visit was to Nordby School where the Fano classic symposium was going on; there we met up with Ralf Maserski and Holm Struck and Paul Chapman. Jan and I did not stay as we needed to book into our chalet at Sonderho.

On arrival at the chalet we saw two single beds and we had brought one double quilt our first problem. A quick tour around the island shops drew a blank not even a sleeping bag, so we went back and found that the sofa was a bed sofa so the problem was solved.

We unpacked and got to the beach for a fly in, then back for a meal and prepare for the Friday's Fano classic workshop.



The workshop was for a Steiff Rhomboid kite; it started at 08.00 on Friday morning.

On arrival I found out that I had left my adaptor home, but all was ok as we were in Nordby schools sewing room, there were machines all around the place and Janet managed to find the pedal for our machine with the correct plug on it.

The workshop was run by Frank Schultz and Michael V. Rockenthien. Both were very helpful. The sewing and preparation was something like the eddy we made but on a smaller scale.

I did however make one mistake; I had the colours around the wrong way. I decided it was staying that way as unpicking was not an option! It turned out there were about four people had done the same thing.

We made a lot of new friends and some guy even shared his lunch with us.

We had a visit from Ralf and Holm and Paul Chapman. There were 18 in the workshop that was located in the local school of Nordby and was in use at the time so we had pupils passing the door poking their heads in. We seemed to be of great interest to them.

We all finished around 15.30 and were on the beach very soon after flying kites. Yes I did all the sewing, well except for the buttonhole Jan did that.

Friday night we all went to Ralf Dietrich's apartment for the Fano classic party we had a great time.

Saturday the big day. The official fly in of the workshop kites. We all met at Fano Bad and all the kites flew well. There was great interest and a film crew was there to record it for the next Fano DVD.

We left the workshop gang and went centre of the beach that is Rindby Strand where they have the official opening and they fly the big windsock, with Fano kite fliers meeting on it.

We got the clubs kite in the air minus the windsock as room was at a premium. We had a good day on the beach with Ralf, Holm, Greg Clark and Paul Chapman.

It took Holm and myself a bit of a pull to get the club kite back down as the wind picked up but it went in the bag ok.

Saturday night the big auction was indeed a great occasion with Alphonse at his height of excitement. I was scared to scratch my nose in case I found myself buying something!

The beer was flowing with bbq Sausages and cakes. Jan and myself left about 22.30 the auction went on until 01.30. Traders were also there and I bought a very nice kite reel for 75 euros And got some line to put on it 500 meters of 40 kg.

Sunday was a great day not so many on the beach and I managed to get my Belier up around 1500 feet anymore than that and you would not see it. However there were Cody kites up at the 2,000 foot altitude. We met Richard and his wife Dalwyne from New Zealand on the beach that day and also Bob and Charmayne Umbowers.

While Greg And Ralf went to the shops Holm and myself hid Greg's kite but he knew, can't fool him.

We were well looked after by Holm and Ralf, being invited for some very nice meals. One night after plenty of wine they played a trick on us and had a kite workshop. Jan made an owl kite I made a model 16 cell Bell Tet. Hmm not funny playing with scalpels late at night after litres of wine.

I have to admit I decided it was safer for me to drive the beach road to get back to our chalet but! Foot down and 10 kms of hard packed sand and I had to find a mini sand dune, we actually left the ground much to Jan's disgust. Wow I lost some brownie points then.

To quote a piece written by Robert Brassington, but I changed the date.

"There is no other kite event anywhere in the world like Fano. This years event was the 22nd and has grown from a couple of friends, Rainer Kregovski and Wolfgang Schimmelfennig, looking for a nice quiet beach on which to fly and to sink a few cold ones. Now some 5000 kite flyers, predominately German, descend on the tiny island for the annual pilgrimage. Fano is just over the German border on the Jutland peninsula in the westerly most parts of Denmark on the North Sea.

The sun sets for only about 4 hours a day so flying goes on from about 8 am to about 11pm.

The sky is a mass of kites on a good day and trying to find the centre of where it is all happening is difficult. When one thinks they are in the middle of it all, the centre then appears to be another 500 meters down the beach. Kites seem to just disappear over the horizon."

Thank you Robert for your kind permission to reprint this.

Nothing is planned just the dates and every one just appears. Kite fliers are welcomed by all on the island and the locals like to come and watch the sky fill with colour. Even the local school has moved it's holidays to coincide with the event.

Of course the main event of the weekend is the auction, which is in aid of the Bolivian children's fund. The auction is very well attended and supported by everyone all there bid for something.

This brings me to a cry for help. I would like to donate kite related items to the auction next year from the WHKF Now Jan and I gave kite club T-shirts which seems popular.

So what have you in your kite bag spare? No longer used to donate to this very worthy cause.

All donations will be documented and there are a few of us from the club going next year so it would be nice to donate from the club. I hope you don't mind me asking but if you don't ask you don't get. Thanks in advance please drop me a line if you have anything. I will arrange pick up etc. My email is gw0jcb@gmail.com or ring me 01446 419162.

Time flies by so please act now.

Our thanks to the following people, for making the festival very special.

Everyone involved in the organisation Especially

Rainer Kregovski, Alphonse for the auction., Ralf Maserski. Bbq and late night workshop.

Holm Struck. Chef and beach master, Paul Chapman; Historian, Ralf Dietrich. Fano classic kites

Frank Schultz; workshop, Michael V. Rockenthien; workshop, Greg Clark, for the green frog story.

Uli Drachein. for the Schnapps and Antje Prager. For putting up with me.

Ceri

## Puzzle Corner (4)



Went to buy a yo-yo reel and noted number of pence written on the price ticket was thirty times the number of pounds. Didn't have the money on me. Yesterday, I saw the same reel but the price had gone up by fifty pence. Now, the number of pence was only ten times the number of pounds. What was the price yesterday?

What digits fit  $\Psi\Phi\Psi = \Psi\Psi \times \Psi\Psi$  ?

Go down to the sea with a teaspoon. Dip the spoon in and fill it. Now do some magic; label every molecule of water in the spoon so that you could recognise it again. Then, anywhere you like, tip the spoonful of water back into the sea. With a huge paddle, stir up the sea – all of it; all the oceans of the world so that your teaspoon of water is mixed evenly throughout the seas. Now, go to any seashore with your spoon and fish out another teaspoonful. Question: what are the chances that your teaspoon will have at least one of your marked water molecules in it?

Make three triangles with four matches.

Kite field: What is the smallest number of kites if two fly Deltas and three fly Fighters?

Keep the answers rolling in. First prize is a lesson from me on how to fly Fighters. Second prize is two lessons.

My e-mail address is [john@johnbrowning.net](mailto:john@johnbrowning.net). Please let me have your answers and any comments you may have about Puzzle Corner.

Oh, by the way; anybody know anything about Flapping Crows?  
Quack Quack Got any grapes?

*I have no idea what the last line is about.*

*Please, if you are having fun with these puzzle pages or can't solve them and want the answers or just want to let some one know you have solved one and want to check your answer, please get in touch with John. I thought I had solved one last issue and he didn't agree until my third solution and I am still struggling with 3388.*

## BOX KITES 2

It is now confirmed that our festival 2007 will have the theme of the history of box kites for the display. George Webster has kindly offered to organise it for us to give some order and continuity to it. When we spoke to our German friends at Dieppe they were very enthusiastic and hope to attend in large numbers. As was mentioned in the last issue we are looking for examples of kites from LeCornu, Cody, Bell and Hargrave as the major contributors in this field. Conynes cover such a vast range that they would monopolise the space we have. If you do have any of these kites that we could use on the display please contact us as early as possible.

In the last issue I gave a very brief history of Hargrave and Cody so to complete the set here are the other two. I do not pretend that these are full histories but just a brief outline. For further details one of the best sources is the article by George in Kiteflier issue 94. This and many other good references can be found on the internet.

### Joseph LeCornu

Joseph LeCornu was born in Caen on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1864 one of 8 children. He did well at school and got a degree in Civil Engineering in 1888. He started work in the electricity supply industry but after a successful start this failed due to local protests. His involvement in local politics helped him to get a job in the coal industry that required a lot of travel and this spurred on his interest in motorcars and bicycles.

His interest in kites was probably inspired by a balloon flight that led to his joining the French Aerial Navigation Society that spawned the French League of Kites of which he became President. He is best known for his cellular kites; the Ladder and the Waffle. These proved very stable and powerful, so much so that he used them to tow a boat and to lift cameras for aerial photography. So kite surfing is not new, it is just a variation of the hobby from over 100 years ago.

LeCornu wrote about kites and in 1902 published *Les Cerfs Volants*, thought to be the first book on the development of kites at the time. He also contributed articles to the magazine of the same name as well as writing books on diverse subjects. He died on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1931 and is buried in Caen churchyard.

### Alexander Graham Bell

Best remembered for inventing the telephone Bell was born in Scotland in 1847. In 1870 he moved to Canada where he met and married Mabel and following a visit to Cape Breton Island they settled there for the remainder of his life. Like other engineers of his time he was interested in the possibility of manned flight and after studying Hargraves rectangular box kites realised that using a triangular section the spars could also be used as braces thus improving the weight to area ratio. This led to his adopting the tetrahedral design now always associated with him. Bell set up a local industry, using his personal fortune, to produce the coverings for his creations some of which contained more than 3000 individual cells.

These giant kites were often used for man lifting and he went on to build aeroplanes. He died in 1922 leaving behind a legacy of his inventive genius that included such things as the FAX, the hydrofoil and the iron lung.

I hope that these articles have given you a small taste of the subject and it's inventors and that you will enjoy the display at our festival in 2007. There will be people there with much more knowledge of this subject than I, so please make the best of this opportunity.

## Australian Apple Cake: A recipe from Di Baggett

A friend who has since moved to Cornwall gave the following recipe to me but it is exceedingly good, especially in the autumn when apples are plentiful. I don't know why she calls it that name.

4oz margarine

4oz sugar

3oz grated apple

1 level teaspoon bicarbonate

6oz flour

Small teaspoon cinnamon

Small teaspoon mixed spice

3oz raisins or sultanas

1 egg

Cream together margarine and sugar. Stir bicarb in to the apples and add to the mix. Sift flour with spices and add to mix, stir in fruit and add egg, you may need to add a little milk at this stage to get the right consistency. Grease and line a 6in tin and put mix in. Bake at gas mark 4 for about an hour but check as cookers do vary. Sorry all in imperial but I can't do metric.

.....

## Not Just For Flying

Who said you can only fly kites? Our daughter, Emma, has just finished her first year as a teacher and has had lots of things to contend with - Ofsted, special needs children and SATs - not bad for a NQT (newly qualified teacher).

She came up with the idea of kites to show the children how they were getting on when working up to their SATs and of course dad(Don) was asked if he would make not just one but nine kites!! 3 for her classroom and 3 for each of the other two teachers in her year group. There are some pictures she took.

Di Baggett

(Note due to the print quality of the magazine copies of these can now be found on the club web site at [www.whkf.org.uk/Dipics](http://www.whkf.org.uk/Dipics) or follow the link from the magazine page.)



An article spotted by Martin Croxton

### Kite boy survives 30ft fall

A TEENAGER told yesterday of the terrifying moment he plummeted to the ground after a kite dragged him 30ft into the air.

Shaun Partridge, 17, was flying the 4-metre long power kite near his home in Ilkeston, Derbyshire when a gust of wind took him away to roof top height.

Power kites are capable of lifting people off their feet, but 9 stone Shaun was taken up until he was hanging level with the top of the village hall.

He dropped about 30ft and blacked out before hitting the ground and breaking his ankle. Shaun said: "I was scared when I looked down and saw the ground getting smaller. The next thing I remember was opening my eyes and being in pain. I thought I was paralysed"

The moral to this story is; make sure that you know what you are doing with BIG kites. They can be dangerous. On this occasion only the flyer was hurt or we might have been seeing yet another ban.

### SEASONS GREETINGS

It may seem rather early for this but the next issue will not be out until January 2007 so may we take this opportunity to wish all our members a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year from all the 2005/6 committee.

Also our thanks to all the regular contributors over the past four issues. It is a shame that more members don't put pen to paper and let us know what is happening out there.

Perhaps we will see some of you working off the seasonal excesses at the Christmas Pudding Fly at Barbury on 27<sup>th</sup>.

### SAD NEWS AGAIN

It is with great sadness that I send this message to you. Please can you pass on the information as you see fit.

Allan Gilbert has entrusted me with the task of disposing of his treasured kite collection. He was a very active member of a number of different kite clubs over the years but in the last 12 months has been diagnosed with a terminal cancer; his prognosis is short.

I have not put prices on any of the items but would ask people to contact me with an offer. All the money raised will be passed on to Lesley, Allan's wife.

I have catalogued his kites and have attached it. There are also various lines and reels which I will be taking to events in the future.

Yours

Karl Longbottom

School House, Dorstone, Hereford, HR3 6AN

01981 550326

Note this list can be found on our web site via the Adverts page. I am sure all WHKF members who have met Alan will join with me in offering our sympathy to him and his family.

## Robinson's Ramble

Well is that it, another "kiting year" coming to a close? Just got back from the Bristol festival, (Sunday). Not the sort of weather you would choose for a kite festival, it was gusting from about 15mph to 46mph at one stage, this curtailed most of the large single-line kites, even Martin Croxton didn't get a kite out of his bag. Ah well there's still Dieppe to look forward to, lets hope the weather is better than we have had in the UK for the last few weeks.

We have Kelvin Woods doing a workshop for club members in October (21/22<sup>nd</sup>), Kelvin is doing the Papillion kite, booking forms have gone out to those members who have supported the last two workshops, there is a waiting list, just in case we don't fill all of the places, if you want to be included on that please let me know.

In 1991 we had the first Swindon Kite Festival, at Lydiard Park, one of our guests for that very first event was Doug Hagaman, we put him and his wife Jody in B&B accommodation in Park Farm, which is opposite Lydiard Park. Sheila & Francis Rummings the owners, had two young sons, Andrew & Chris. Doug Hagaman took the two boys over to the park prior to the event to introduce them to kite flying, this obviously had a great effect on the boys because they are both still interested in kites, so much so that Andrew has become an extremely accomplished kite maker, not only is he a great kite maker he has taken to sewing in a big way. Janet and myself were very pleased to be invited to Andrew's wedding to his long time girlfriend Esther, the wedding was held in the cow-shed at Mum & Dads farm, we arrived on a very hot July afternoon, and the first thing that Janet noticed was the suit that Andrew was wearing, brown with a very distinctive stripe, she told him that she thought it looked great and to our amazement he told us he had made it himself! Little did he know that that day back in 1991 when Doug took him and his brother on their first serious kite-flying day, what it would lead to! Andrew told us he bought an old Readers Digest sewing book and read it from cover to cover. He started by making a mock-up in calico, so that he got the size right, he obviously likes working to tight deadlines, his Mum informed us he was still sewing the buttons on; on the morning of the wedding. I have included a picture to show you all his skill, oh I nearly forgot to say, [the] suit was chocolate brown with a white stripe and bright orange lining!



Don't forget that on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November the club's AGM will be held at the Holiday Inn Express, at junction 16 of the M4, this kicks off at 1pm. Don't forget this is your club and if there is anything your not happy with, the AGM is the place to come and air your views, and of course to elect the officers for the next year.

A buffet lunch will be provided, we cover the costs of the lunch with the raffle so please donate whatever you can, and come and buy as many tickets as you can afford.

There is also a better quality of this picture including the bride in colour on our web pages.

AGENDA for  
WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
19<sup>th</sup> NOV 2005

at

The Holiday Inn (SWINDON WEST)

12.00PM for 12.30pm Start

1. Welcome to Members from the President.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of 2005 AGM.
4. Matters arising from Minutes.
5. Chairman's Report.
6. Hon. Sec's Report.
7. Hon. Treasurer's Report.
8. "Cowpat Hill" editor's Report.
9. WHKF USA representative's Report.
10. Election of Officers.
11. WHKF Festival 2007.
12. Other Events.
13. National Body .
14. Equipment for 2007.
15. Projects for 2007.
16. Workshops for 2007
18. Fees from November 2007.
19. Any other Business. Now is your chance to have "a say", or have we forgotten something.
20. Close of the Meeting by the President.

Lunch will be served following the election of officers.

THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT THE END OF THE MEETING.

Please support it well as it pays for the FOOD.

# 55

For years as The BOF has insisted the answer to the ultimate question has been 42. This has now changed to 55 and the question to the ultimate answer is now "How many Stickmen are there?"

The question was posed and answered at Dieppe when on the Thursday morning the wind was blowing towards the sea at the perfect speed for the stickmen. A team of White Horse Kite Flyers started to put them up; unfortunately there is still a problem with the 3m pilot as it has to be bridled well forward to launch in the low ground winds but the goes unstable at higher wind speeds so we changed to the tried and tested delta. This worked at once with two people sorting lead lines, one sorting the flying lines (more than 700ft), two more sorting colours and Don covering himself in silicone sealer to try and stop spars popping out. By the time there were twenty in the air the public had started gathering to watch and take pictures of the professionals at work, few believing that there were still 35 more to go. But we kept at it and in the end total success and then the announcer came over to find out who was putting on this display and they were closely followed by a camera crew. They stayed flying for a couple of hours until the wind shifted and they got tangled with a PL pilot. If this is the only time we ever fly all of them together it was worth while. Thanks to all those involved with making and flying this set.

Friday and Saturday saw the wind coming off the sea so tactics were changed and we went for the fish and the big wind socks, another display comparable with anything else at the festival. By this time the event co-ordinator realised that this was a club to be noticed and she came over to ask for contact details. Who knows, could it be an invitation for WHKF in 2008? We will have to wait and see.

To finish in the way we had been going there was no space on the beach on Sunday so Donald got out his giant boll. That soon cleared an area big enough for Martin to put up the fish especially when a few beginners walked back into the lines waiving their hand in the air as new twin line flyers tend to. With 3 people looking after the boll no damage was done so keep it up WHKF and fly safely.

I for one was proud to be a member of the green shirt brigade at this event and look forward to going on to better things in the future.

Well done every body.

Arthur



## Club Merchandise

All items can now be viewed on the club web site. Prices do not include post and packing. Please contact us for these costs. Cheques should be made payable to WHKF.

PATCH	£1.50	JACKET	£35	CAP	STANDARD	£7.50	
					WITH EAR FLAPS	£10	
					LEGIONNAIRE'S	£8.50	
T SHIRT	S-XL	£9	POLO	XS-XL	£14	SWEATSHIRT XS-XL	£16.60
	2XL-3XL	£9.50		2XL	£14.50	2XL	£17.90
	2005 FESTIVAL	£7		3-4XL	£15	3-4XL	£18.40
	2006 FESTIVAL	£7				FESTIVAL XS-XL	£25
FESTIVAL MUGS	£7	FESTIVAL	£2				
		COASTERS					

### WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Always fly safely

Always be considerate to other people using the same area whether it is noise or physical intrusion into their space.

Always fly legally taking in to account all national, local and CAA restrictions and by-laws

Never fly at a height of more than 60m above ground level unless a CAA clearance is in force (as at kite festivals). If you don't know what the clearance is ASK!

Never fly a kite in wet or stormy weather. Always try and keep your line dry.

Never fly a kite near power lines, transmission towers or aerials.

Never fly near Motorways, roads, car parks or railways.

Never fly near airfields.

Never fly a kite with anything metallic in the line.

When tethering a kite ensure that the ground anchor is suitable (see BKFA report 6 June 06).

When flying large kites always use a brake line.

Always wear good quality gloves when flying large powerful kites.

Always give priority to domestic animals particularly if they are showing signs of distress.

Always clear up after yourself, especially lines, tails and bits of plastic that could trap, choke or injure domestic animals.

Never fly near those kite-eating trees.

Finally remember....your kites can get really quite lonely up high in the sky; just occasionally, look up and give them a SMILE. It will make you feel better too.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS meet at Barbury Castle Country Park on the second Sunday of each month.

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This issue compiled by Arthur Dibble

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